

PCT INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING
OF A CHANGE(PCT Rule 92bis.1 and
Administrative Instructions, Section 422)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

McNEIGHT, David, Leslie
McNeight & Lawrence
Regent House
Heaton Lane
Stockport, Cheshire SK4 1BS
ROYAUME-UNI

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 12 October 2000 (12.10.00)	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
Applicant's or agent's file reference M99/0009/PCT	
International application No. PCT/GB00/00062	International filing date (day/month/year) 12 January 2000 (12.01.00)

1. The following indications appeared on record concerning: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the applicant <input type="checkbox"/> the inventor <input type="checkbox"/> the agent <input type="checkbox"/> the common representative		
Name and Address REFLECTIVE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES LIMITED Road One Winsford Industrial Estate Winsford Cheshire CW7 3QQ United Kingdom	State of Nationality GB	State of Residence GB
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	
2. The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the following change has been recorded concerning: <input type="checkbox"/> the person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the name <input type="checkbox"/> the address <input type="checkbox"/> the nationality <input type="checkbox"/> the residence		
Name and Address REFLEC PLC Road One Winsford Industrial Estate Winsford Cheshire CW7 3QQ United Kingdom	State of Nationality GB	State of Residence GB
	Telephone No.	
	Facsimile No.	
	Teleprinter No.	
3. Further observations, if necessary:		
4. A copy of this notification has been sent to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the receiving Office <input type="checkbox"/> the designated Offices concerned <input type="checkbox"/> the International Searching Authority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the elected Offices concerned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the International Preliminary Examining Authority <input type="checkbox"/> other:		

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Dominique DELMAS Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
---	--

P. ENT COOPERATION TREA

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 United States Patent and Trademark
 Office
 Box PCT
 Washington, D.C.20231
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 06 September 2000 (06.09.00)	
International application No. PCT/GB00/00062	Applicant's or agent's file reference M99/0009/PCT
International filing date (day/month/year) 12 January 2000 (12.01.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 14 January 1999 (14.01.99)
Applicant SAGAR, Brian	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:



in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

29 July 2000 (29.07.00)



in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was

was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Zakaria EL KHODARY Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference M99/0009/PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/GB00/00062	International filing date (day/month/year) 12/01/2000	Priority date (day/month/year) 14/01/1999
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C09D11/02		
Applicant REFLEC PLC et al.		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.



2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☒ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☒ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 29/07/2000	Date of completion of this report 17.05.2001
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized officer Sperry, P Telephone No. +49 89 2399 8298 

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/GB00/00062

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, pages:

1-22 as originally filed

Claims, No.:

1-56 as originally filed

Drawings, sheets:

1/1 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB00/00062

☐ the drawings, sheets:

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

IV. Lack of unity of invention

1. In response to the invitation to restrict or pay additional fees the applicant has:

- ☐ restricted the claims.
☐ paid additional fees.
☐ paid additional fees under protest.
☐ neither restricted nor paid additional fees.

2. ☒ This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied and chose, according to Rule 68.1, not to invite the applicant to restrict or pay additional fees.

3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is

- ☐ complied with.
☒ not complied with for the following reasons:
see separate sheet

4. Consequently, the following parts of the international application were the subject of international preliminary examination in establishing this report:

- ☒ all parts.
☐ the parts relating to claims Nos. .

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	1-17,24-39,41-56
	No:	Claims	18-23,40
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	
	No:	Claims	41,42,49-56

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/GB00/00062

Industrial applicability (IA) Yes: Claims 1-56
 No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations
see separate sheet

VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:
see separate sheet

Re Item IV

Lack of unity of invention

1. Claims 1 to 17 relate to a retroreflective ink containing microbeads.
Claims 18 to 22 relate to microbeads for use in the production of a retroreflective ink.

The common concept linking together these 2 groups of claims are microbeads for use in the production of a retroreflective ink. Such microbeads are known from D1 = US-A-5 650 213. Therefore these groups are not linked by a single general inventive concept.

2. Claims 1 to 17 relate to a retroreflective ink.
Claims 49 to 55 relate to fabric coated a retroreflective ink. The common concept linking together these 2 groups of claims is a fabric coated with a retroreflective ink. Such a fabric is known from D1(see claim 5). Therefore these groups are not linked by a single general inventive concept.

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Reference is made to the following document

D1: US-A-5 650 213 (RIZIKA DANIEL J ET AL) 22 July 1997 (1997-07-22) cited in the application

1. Document D1 relates to microbeads for use in the production of a retroreflective ink. On column 15, lines 48-54 silane coated microbeads and specific aluminium coated glass beads are described. Therefore the subject-matter of claims 18 to 21 lacks novelty with respect to D1. Consequently an ink containing such microbeads (claims 22 and 23) lacks also novelty over D1. In addition a substrate coated with such an ink (claim 40) is also not novel or based on an inventive step (claims 41 and 42).

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/GB00/00062

2. Claims 49 to 56 relate to fabrics coated with retroreflective inks (containing or not microbeads). These fabrics if they are novel are not inventive with respect to D1 in which fabrics of different materials are coated with an retroreflective inks containing microbeads.

Re Item VIII

Certain observations on the international application

1. As a general rule, claims which attempt to define the invention, by a result to be achieved should not be allowed, in particular if they only amount to claiming the underlying technical problem. This is the case for claims 46 to 48, which therefore should be deleted.
2. Tradenames such as Proban® or Pyrovatex® in claim 51 are not allowable.

PCT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference M99/0009/PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Notification of Transmittal of International Search Report (Form PCT/ISA/220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB 00/ 00062	International filing date (day/month/year) 12/01/2000	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 14/01/1999
Applicant REFLECTIVE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES LIMITED et al.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 3 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ the international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing :

☐ contained in the international application in written form.

☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.

☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.

☐ the statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.

☐ the statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box I).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box II).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. The figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.

☐ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ because this figure better characterizes the invention.

☒ None of the figures.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PC.7 AB 00/00062

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C09D11/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C09D G02B C03C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 97 12284 A (MINNESOTA MINING & MFG) 3 April 1997 (1997-04-03) page 1, line 10-15 page 8, line 7-15 page 22, line 8-13 ---	1,2
A	GB 2 316 021 A (TRIP PRODUCTIONS B V) 18 February 1998 (1998-02-18) the whole document ---	
A	US 5 650 213 A (RIZIKA DANIEL J ET AL) 22 July 1997 (1997-07-22) cited in the application --- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

13 April 2000

Date of mailing of the International search report

20/04/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Miller, A

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/00062

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 95 14248 A (REFLECTIVE TECHNOLOGY IND LTD ;SAGAR BRIAN (GB); MOULE ROBERT (GB)) 26 May 1995 (1995-05-26)	
A	& EP 0 729 592 A (REFLECTIVE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES LIMITED) 4 September 1996 (1996-09-04) cited in the application -----	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/00062

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9712284 A	03-04-1997	EP 0852745 A JP 11513422 T US 5886067 A	15-07-1998 16-11-1999 23-03-1999
GB 2316021 A	18-02-1998	NL 1006745 C NL 1006745 A	02-11-1999 12-02-1998
US 5650213 A	22-07-1997	AU 4464196 A CN 1168724 A EP 0795138 A GB 2310863 A, B JP 10510930 T WO 9617264 A	19-06-1996 24-12-1997 17-09-1997 10-09-1997 20-10-1998 06-06-1996
WO 9514248 A	26-05-1995	AU 1032595 A EP 0729592 A JP 9506301 T US 5900978 A	06-06-1995 04-09-1996 24-06-1997 04-05-1999

PCTWORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : C09D 11/02	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/42113 (43) International Publication Date: 20 July 2000 (20.07.00)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB00/00062 (22) International Filing Date: 12 January 2000 (12.01.00) (30) Priority Data: 9900654.6 14 January 1999 (14.01.99) GB 9901031.6 19 January 1999 (19.01.99) GB 9921394.4 10 September 1999 (10.09.99) GB 9921618.6 14 September 1999 (14.09.99) GB (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): REFLECTIVE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES LIMITED [GB/GB]; Road One, Winsford Industrial Estate, Winsford, Cheshire CW7 3QQ (GB). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): SAGAR, Brian [GB/GB]; The Cottage, 42 Moseley Road, Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle, Cheshire SK8 5HJ (GB). (74) Agents: McNEIGHT, David, Leslie et al.; McNeight & Lawrence, Regent House, Heaton Lane, Stockport, Cheshire SK4 1BS (GB).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: RETROREFLECTIVE INKS (57) Abstract The combination of ingredients, especially for use in the formulation of a one or two-pack retroreflective ink, comprising retroreflective elements, microbeads additional to said retroreflective elements and/or constituting said retroreflective elements at least in part, binder chemicals for attaching the retroreflective elements and microbeads to a substrate to which the ink is to be applied, and a coupling agent for coupling the microbeads and cross-linking the binder chemicals, the coupling agent being unreactive until the printing process is carried out.		

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
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DE	Germany	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
DK	Denmark	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		
EE	Estonia						

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB 00/00062

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C09D11/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 C09D G02B C03C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 97 12284 A (MINNESOTA MINING & MFG) 3 April 1997 (1997-04-03) page 1, line 10-15 page 8, line 7-15 page 22, line 8-13	1,2
A	GB 2 316 021 A (TRIP PRODUCTIONS B V) 18 February 1998 (1998-02-18) the whole document	
A	US 5 650 213 A (RIZIKA DANIEL J ET AL) 22 July 1997 (1997-07-22) cited in the application	
	-/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *A* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 April 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

20/04/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Miller, A

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 00/00062

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
<p>A</p> <p>A</p>	<p>WO 95 14248 A (REFLECTIVE TECHNOLOGY IND LTD ;SAGAR BRIAN (GB); MOULE ROBERT (GB)) 26 May 1995 (1995-05-26) & EP 0 729 592 A (REFLECTIVE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES LIMITED) 4 September 1996 (1996-09-04) cited in the application</p>	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Inter. Application No

PCT/GB 00/00062

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member()		Publication date
WO 9712284	A	03-04-1997	EP	0852745 A	15-07-1998
			JP	11513422 T	16-11-1999
			US	5886067 A	23-03-1999
GB 2316021	A	18-02-1998	NL	1006745 C	02-11-1999
			NL	1006745 A	12-02-1998
US 5650213	A	22-07-1997	AU	4464196 A	19-06-1996
			CN	1168724 A	24-12-1997
			EP	0795138 A	17-09-1997
			GB	2310863 A, B	10-09-1997
			JP	10510930 T	20-10-1998
			WO	9617264 A	06-06-1996
WO 9514248	A	26-05-1995	AU	1032595 A	06-06-1995
			EP	0729592 A	04-09-1996
			JP	9506301 T	24-06-1997
			US	5900978 A	04-05-1999